Senate Engrossed House Bill

FILED KEN BENNETT SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-ninth Legislature Second Regular Session 2010

CHAPTER 173

HOUSE BILL 2069

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-442 AND 16-312, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 16-410; AMENDING SECTIONS 16-411, 16-542 AND 16-544, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

- j -

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 15-442, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-442. Record of school district boundaries: limitation on change: notice to governing board

- A. The county school superintendent shall, on or before December 1 each year, SHALL file with the board of supervisors and the county assessor a transcript of the boundaries of each school district within the county. The boundaries shown in the transcript shall become the legal boundaries of the districts as of the following July 1.
- B. The boundaries of a school district shall not be changed except as provided in this title and then only after the governing boards of the districts affected have had written notice of the proposed change from the county school superintendent and have had an opportunity to be heard.
- C. IF THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND COUNTY ASSESSOR DETERMINE THAT THE BOUNDARIES OF ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE IN CONFLICT WITH ONE ANOTHER OR WITH OTHER INTERSECTING LEGAL BOUNDARIES, TRAVERSE WITHIN A LEGALLY DESCRIBED BOUNDARY OR ARE INCORRECTLY DESCRIBED, THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SHALL CHANGE, RECONCILE AND DESCRIBE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES ACCURATELY AND SHALL MAKE A REPORT OF THOSE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. WHEN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES A DISTRICT BOUNDARY REPORT THAT IS SUBMITTED BY THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, THOSE BOUNDARIES SHALL BE THE LEGAL BOUNDARIES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WITHIN THAT COUNTY.
 - Sec. 2. Section 16-312, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 16-312. Filing of nomination papers for write-in candidates
- A. Any person desiring to become a write-in candidate for an elective office in any election shall file a nomination paper, signed by the candidate, giving the person's actual residence address or description of place of residence and post office address, age, length of residence in the state and date of birth.
- B. A write-in candidate shall file the nomination paper not later than 5:00 p.m. on the fortieth day prior to BEFORE the election, except that:
- 1. A candidate running as a write-in candidate as provided in section 16-343, subsection D shall file the nomination paper not later than 5:00 p.m. on the fifth day before the election.
- 2. A candidate running as a write-in candidate for an election that may be canceled pursuant to section 15-424, 15-1442, 16-822, 48-802, 48-1012, 48-1208, 48-1404, 48-1908, 48-2010, 48-2107 or 48-2208 16-410 shall file the nomination paper not later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventy-sixth day before the election.
- C. The write-in filing procedure shall be in the same manner as prescribed in section 16-311. Any person who does not file a timely nomination paper shall not be counted in the tally of ballots. The filing officer shall not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for state or

- 1 -

 local office unless the candidate provides or has provided both of the following:

- 1. A political committee statement of organization or the five hundred dollar threshold exemption statement for that office.
- 2. The financial disclosure statement as prescribed for candidates for that office.
- D. The secretary of state shall notify the various boards of supervisors as to write-in candidates filing with the secretary of state's office. The county school superintendent shall notify the appropriate board of supervisors as to write-in candidates filing with the superintendent's office. The board of supervisors shall notify the appropriate election board inspector of all candidates who have properly filed such statements. In the case of a city or town election, the city or town clerk shall notify the appropriate election board inspector of candidates properly filed. No other write-ins shall be counted. The election board inspector shall post the notice of official write-in candidates in a conspicuous location within the polling place.
- E. Except as provided in section 16-343, subsection E, a candidate may not file pursuant to this section if any of the following applies:
- 1. For a candidate in the general election, the candidate ran in the immediately preceding primary election and failed to be nominated to the office sought in the current election.
- 2. For a candidate in the general election, the candidate filed a nomination petition for the immediately preceding primary election for the office sought and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition signatures as prescribed by section 16-322.
- 3. For a candidate in the primary election, the candidate filed a nomination petition for the current primary election for the office sought and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition signatures as prescribed by section 16-322.
- 4. For a candidate in the general election, the candidate filed a nomination petition for nomination other than by primary for the office sought and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition signatures as prescribed by section 16-341.
- F. A person who files a nomination paper pursuant to this section for the office of president of the United States shall designate in writing to the secretary of state at the time of filing the name of the candidate's vice-presidential running mate, the names of presidential electors who will represent that candidate and a statement signed by the vice-presidential running mate and designated presidential electors that indicates their consent to be designated. A nomination paper for each presidential elector designated shall be filed with the candidate's nomination paper. The number of presidential electors shall equal the number of United States senators and representatives in Congress from this state.

- 2 -

Sec. 3. Title 16, chapter 4, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-410, to read:

16-410. <u>Cancellation of certain elections: appointment to office: filling vacancies</u>

- A. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, IN ANY ELECTION THAT IS TO BE HELD PURSUANT TO TITLE 15, TITLE 48 OR SECTION 16-822, IF THE TOTAL OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO FILE A NOMINATION PETITION FOR A CANDIDATE AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO FILE A NOMINATION PAPER FOR A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE AS PRESCRIBED BY CHAPTER 3, ARTICLES 2 AND 3 OF THIS TITLE IS LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF POSITIONS TO BE FILLED AT THE ELECTION FOR WHICH THE NOMINATION PETITION OR NOMINATION PAPER IS FILED, THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY CANCEL THE ELECTION NO EARLIER THAN SEVENTY-FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION AND APPOINT THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO FILED THE NOMINATION PETITION OR NOMINATION PAPER TO FILL THE POSITION FOR THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR WHICH THE CANDIDATE WAS NOMINATED BY THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS.
- B. A PERSON WHO IS APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION IS FULLY VESTED WITH THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICE AS IF ELECTED TO THAT OFFICE.
- C. IF NO NOMINATION PETITIONS FOR A CANDIDATE AND NO NOMINATION PAPERS FOR A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE HAVE BEEN FILED TO FILL THE POSITION FOR WHICH THE ELECTION WAS BEING HELD, THE POSITION IS DEEMED VACANT AND SHALL BE FILLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAWS GOVERNING THE FILLING OF THOSE VACANCIES.
- D. CANCELED ELECTIONS SHALL NOT APPEAR ON ANY BALLOT, BUT IF A WITHDRAWAL OR DISQUALIFICATION OF ONE OR MORE CANDIDATES RESULTS IN THE CANCELLATION OF AN ELECTION AFTER THE BALLOTS HAVE BEEN PRINTED, THE RESULTS OF ANY VOTE FOR THAT OFFICE SHALL NOT BE CANVASSED.
 - Sec. 4. Section 16-411, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 16-411. Designation of election precincts and polling places: electioneering: wait times
- A. Except as prescribed by subsection J of this section, the board of supervisors of each county, on or before December 1 of each year preceding the year of a general election, by an order, shall establish a convenient number of election precincts in the county and define the boundaries of the precincts. Such election precinct boundaries shall be so established as included within election districts prescribed by law for elected officers of the state and its political subdivisions including community college district precincts, except those elected officers provided for in titles 30 and 48.
- B. Not less than twenty days before a general or primary election, and at least ten days before a special election, the board shall designate one polling place within each precinct where the election shall be held, EXCEPT THAT: \cdot
- 1. Upon ON a specific finding of the board, included in the order or resolution designating polling places pursuant to this subsection, that no suitable polling place is available within a precinct, a polling place for such precinct may be designated within an adjacent precinct.

- 3 -

- 2. Adjacent precincts may be combined if boundaries so established are included in election districts prescribed by law for state elected officials and political subdivisions including community college districts but not including elected officials prescribed by titles 30 and 48. The officer in charge of elections may also split a precinct for administrative purposes. Any such polling places shall be listed in separate sections of the order or resolution.
- 3. ON A SPECIFIC FINDING OF THE BOARD THAT THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO ARE LISTED AS PERMANENT EARLY VOTERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-544 IS LIKELY TO SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VOTERS APPEARING AT ONE OR MORE SPECIFIC POLLING PLACES AT THAT ELECTION, ADJACENT PRECINCTS MAY BE CONSOLIDATED BY COMBINING POLLING PLACES AND PRECINCT BOARDS FOR THAT ELECTION. THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHALL ENSURE THAT A REASONABLE AND ADEQUATE NUMBER OF POLLING PLACES WILL BE DESIGNATED FOR THAT ELECTION. ANY CONSOLIDATED POLLING PLACES SHALL BE LISTED IN SEPARATE SECTIONS OF THE ORDER OR RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD.
- C. If the board fails to designate the place for holding the election, or if it cannot be held at or about the place designated, the justice of the peace in the precinct, two days before the election, by an order, copies of which he THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE shall immediately post in three public places in the precinct, shall designate the place within the precinct for holding the election. If there is no justice of the peace in the precinct, or if the justice of the peace fails to do so, the election board of the precinct shall designate and give notice of the place within the precinct of holding the election. For any election in which there are no candidates for elected office appearing on the ballot, the board may consolidate polling places and precinct boards and may consolidate the tabulation of results for that election if all of the following apply:
- 1. All affected voters are notified by mail of the change at least thirty-three days before the election.
- 2. Notice of the change in polling places includes notice of the new voting location, notice of the hours for voting on election day and notice of the telephone number to call for voter assistance.
- 3. All affected voters receive information on early voting that includes the application used to request an early voting ballot.
- D. The board is not required to designate a polling place for special district mail ballot elections held pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter, but the board may designate one or more sites for voters to deposit marked ballots until $7:00\ p.m.$ on the day of the election.
- E. Except as provided in subsection F of this section, a public school shall provide sufficient space for use as a polling place for any city, county or state election when requested by the officer in charge of elections.
- F. The principal of the school may deny a request to provide space for use as a polling place for any city, county or state election if, within two weeks after a request has been made, the principal provides a written

- 4 -

statement indicating a reason the election cannot be held in the school, including any of the following:

- 1. Space is not available at the school.
- The safety or welfare of the children would be jeopardized.
- G. The board shall make available to the public as a public record a list of the polling places for all precincts in which the election is to be held including identification of polling place changes that were submitted to the United States department of justice for approval.
- H. Except in the case of an emergency, any facility that is used as a polling place on election day shall allow persons to electioneer and engage in other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot limit prescribed by section 16-515 in public areas and parking lots used by voters. This subsection shall not be construed to permit the temporary or permanent construction of structures in public areas and parking lots or the blocking or other impairment of access to parking spaces for voters.
- I. The secretary of state shall provide through the instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452 the maximum allowable wait time for any election that is subject to section 16-204 and provide for a method to reduce voter wait time at the polls in the primary and general elections. The method shall consider at least all of the following for primary and general elections in each precinct:
- 1. The number of ballots voted in the prior primary and general elections.
- 2. The number of registered voters who voted early in the prior primary and general elections.
- 3. The number of registered voters and the number of registered voters who cast an early ballot for the current primary or general election.
- 4. The number of election board members and clerks and the number of rosters that will reduce voter wait time at the polls.
- J. The board of supervisors of a county shall not change precinct lines during the period after July 31, 2008 and before January 1, 2011. The board of supervisors may subdivide an election precinct for administrative purposes or may provide for more than one polling place within the boundaries of the election precincts established for use in voting in elections held after July 31, 2008 and before January 1, 2011. In providing for multiple polling places within a precinct, the board of supervisors shall consider the particular population characteristics of each precinct in order to provide the voters the most reasonable access to the polls possible.
 - Sec. 5. Section 16-542, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 16-542. Request for ballot
- A. Within ninety-three days before any election called pursuant to the laws of this state, an elector may make a verbal or signed request to the county recorder, or other officer in charge of elections for the applicable political subdivision of this state in whose jurisdiction the elector is registered to vote, for an official early ballot. In addition to name and

- 5 -

address, the requesting elector shall provide the date of birth and state or country of birth or other information that if compared to the voter registration information on file would confirm the identity of the elector. If the request indicates that the elector needs a primary election ballot and a general election ballot, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall honor the request. For any partisan primary election, if the elector is not registered as a member of a political party that is entitled to continued representation on the ballot pursuant to section 16-804, the elector shall designate the ballot of only one of the political parties that is entitled to continued representation on the ballot and the elector may receive and vote the ballot of only that one political party. recorder may establish on-site early voting locations at the recorder's office, which shall be open and available for use beginning the same day that a county begins to send out the early ballots. The county recorder may also establish any other early voting locations in the county the recorder deems necessary.

- B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, a request for an official early ballot from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 United States Code section 1973ff-6) or a voter whose information is protected pursuant to section 16-153 that is received by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections more than ninety-three days before the election is valid. If requested by the absent uniformed services or overseas voter, or a voter whose information is protected pursuant to section 16-153, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall provide to the requesting voter early ballot materials through the next two regularly scheduled general elections for federal office immediately following receipt of the request.
- C. The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail the early ballot and the envelope for its return postage prepaid to the address provided by the requesting elector within five days after receipt of the official early ballots from the officer charged by law with the duty of preparing ballots pursuant to section 16-545, except that early ballot distribution shall not begin more than twenty-six days before the election. All IF AN early ballot requests REQUEST IS received on or before the thirtieth day before the election, THE EARLY BALLOT shall be distributed on the twenty-sixth day before the election.
- D. Only the elector may be in possession of that elector's unvoted early ballot. If a complete and correct request is made by the elector within twenty-six days before the election, the mailing must be made within forty-eight hours after receipt of the request. Saturdays, Sundays and other legal holidays are excluded from the computation of the forty-eight hour period prescribed by this subsection. If a complete and correct request is made by an absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter before the election, the regular early ballot shall be transmitted by mail, by fax or by

- 6 -

other electronic format approved by the secretary of state within twenty-four hours after the early ballots are delivered pursuant to section 16-545, subsection B, excluding Sundays.

- E. In order to be complete and correct and to receive an early ballot by mail, an elector's request that an early ballot be mailed to the elector's residence or temporary address must include all of the information prescribed by subsection A of this section and must be received by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections no later than 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day preceding the election. An elector who appears personally no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election at an on-site early voting location that is established by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall be given a ballot and permitted to vote at the on-site location. If an elector's request to receive an early ballot is not complete and correct but complies with all other requirements of this section, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall attempt to notify the elector of the deficiency of the request.
- F. Unless an elector specifies that the address to which an early ballot is to be sent is a temporary address, the recorder may use the information from an early ballot request form to update voter registration records.
- G. The county recorder or other officer in charge of early balloting shall provide an alphabetized list of all voters in the precinct who have requested and have been sent an early ballot to the election board of the precinct in which the voter is registered not later than the day prior to the election.
- H. As a result of an emergency occurring between 5:00 p.m. on the second Friday preceding the election and 5:00 p.m. on the Monday preceding the election, qualified electors may request to vote early in the manner prescribed by the county recorder of their respective county. For the purposes of this subsection, "emergency" means any unforeseen circumstances that would prevent the elector from voting at the polls.
- I. A candidate or political committee may distribute early ballot request forms to voters. If the early ballot request forms include a printed address for return to an addressee other than a political subdivision, the addressee shall be the candidate or political committee that paid for the printing and distribution of the request forms. All early ballot request forms that are received by a candidate or political committee shall be transmitted as soon as practicable to the political subdivision that will conduct the election.
 - Sec. 6. Section 16-544, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 16-544. <u>Permanent early voting list</u>
- A. Any voter may request to be included on a permanent list of voters to receive an early ballot for any election for which the county voter registration roll is used to prepare the election register. The county

- 7 -

 recorder of each county shall maintain the permanent early voting list as part of the voter registration roll.

- B. In order to be included on the permanent early voting list, the voter shall make a written request specifically requesting that the voter's name be added to the permanent early voting list for all elections in which the applicant is eligible to vote. A PERMANENT EARLY VOTER REQUEST FORM SHALL CONFORM TO REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES MANUAL ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-452. The application shall allow for the voter to provide the voter's name, residence address, mailing address in the voter's county of residence, date of birth and signature. The voter shall not list a mailing address that is outside of the voter's county of residence for the purpose of the permanent early voting list unless the voter is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 United States Code section 1973ff-6). In lieu of the application, the applicant may submit a written request that contains the required information.
- C. On receipt of a request to be included on the permanent early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall compare the signature on the request form with the voter's signature on the voter's registration form and, if the request is from the voter, shall mark the voter's registration file as a permanent early ballot request.
- Not less than one hundred twenty NINETY days before any POLLING PLACE election scheduled in March or September AUGUST, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail to all voters who are eligible for the election and who are included on the permanent early voting list an election notice by nonforwardable mail that is marked with the statement required by the postmaster to receive an address correction notification. IF AN ELECTION IS NOT FORMALLY CALLED BY A JURISDICTION BY THE ONE HUNDRED TWENTIETH DAY BEFORE THE ELECTION, THE RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS IS NOT REQUIRED TO SEND THE ELECTION NOTICE. notice shall include the dates of the elections that are the subject of the notice, the dates that the voter's ballot is expected to be mailed and the address where the ballot will be mailed. If the upcoming election is a partisan open primary election and the voter is not registered as a member of one of the political parties that is recognized for purposes of that primary, the notice shall include information on the procedure for the voter to designate a political party ballot. The notice shall be delivered with return postage prepaid and shall also include a means for the voter to do any of the following:
- 1. Change the mailing address for the voter's ballot to another location in the voter's county of residence.
- 2. Update the voter's residence address in the voter's county of residence.

- 8 -

- 3. Request that the voter not be sent a ballot for the upcoming election or elections indicated on the notice.
- E. If the notice that is mailed to the voter is returned undeliverable by the postal service, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall take the necessary steps to contact the voter at the voter's new residence address in order to update that voter's address or to move the voter to inactive status as prescribed in section 16-166, subsection A. If a voter is moved to inactive status, the voter shall be removed from the permanent early voting list. If the voter is removed from the permanent early voting list, the voter shall only be added to the permanent early voting list again if the voter submits a new request pursuant to this section.
- F. Not later than on the first day of early voting, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail an early ballot to all eligible voters included on the permanent early voting list in the same manner prescribed in section 16-542, subsection C. If the voter has not returned the notice or otherwise notified the election officer within forty-five days before the election that the voter does not wish to receive an early ballot by mail for the election or elections indicated, the ballot shall automatically be scheduled for mailing.
- G. If a voter who is on the permanent early voting list is not registered as a member of a recognized political party and fails to notify the county recorder of the voter's choice for political party ballot within forty-five days before a partisan open primary election, the following apply:
- 1. The voter shall not automatically be sent a ballot for that partisan open primary election only and the voter's name shall remain on the permanent early ballot VOTING list for future elections.
- 2. To receive an early ballot for the primary election, the voter shall submit the voter's choice for political party ballot to the county recorder.
- H. After a voter has requested to be included on the permanent early voting list, the voter shall be sent an early ballot by mail automatically for any election at which a voter at that residence address is eligible to vote until any of the following occurs:
- 1. The voter requests in writing to be removed from the permanent early $\frac{\text{ballot}}{\text{VOTING list}}$.
- 2. The voter's registration or eligibility for registration is moved to inactive status or canceled as otherwise provided by law.
- 3. The notice sent by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections is returned undeliverable and the county recorder or officer in charge of elections is unable to contact the voter to determine the voter's continued desire to remain on the list.
- I. A voter may make a written request at any time to be removed from the permanent early voting list. The request shall include the voter's name, residence address, date of birth and signature. On receipt of a completed

- 9 -

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request to remove a voter from the permanent early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall remove the voter's name from the list as soon as practicable.

- J. An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 United States Code section 1973ff-6) is eligible to be placed on the permanent early voting list pursuant to this section.
- K. A voter's failure to vote an early ballot once received does not constitute grounds to remove the voter from the permanent early voting list.

Sec. 7. <u>Emergency</u>

This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by law.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 27, 2010.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 28, 2010.